

REMARKS

Applicant notes with appreciation that prosecution on the merits has been closed in accordance with *Ex parte Quayle*.

The specification and claims have been amended to conform them to U.S. practice in order to prepare the application for issuance as a patent. Such amendments are for purposes of clarity and are submitted to not raise substantive issues.

With respect to the claims, the terminology of the claims has been edited to eliminate recitations such as "arrangement" and to further eliminate recitations such as "which can be connected to an evaluation unit" which is not part of the illustrated subject matter in Fig. 1.

It is requested that the Examiner consider the enclosed Amendments to claims 11-24 for the purpose of not materially changing the scope of the claims and for the purpose of conforming the claims to make them clear and of better form in accordance with U.S. practice to be issued as a patent.

Similarly, the specification has been substantially revised to improve its form for issuance as a patent. In this regard, it is noted that the Examiner has already noted certain informalities in the specification which have been addressed in the current Amendment along with other informalities noted upon a detailed review of the application by the undersigned for the purpose for placing the application in condition for allowance.

The undersigned left a telephone message with the Examiner on January 30, 2008 indicating that this Amendment would be filed and that if the Examiner has any

questions regarding the scope of the Amendment not complying with the practice of *Ex parte Quayle*, he should call the undersigned.

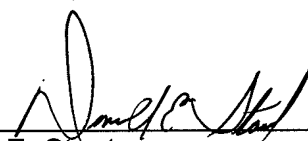
Finally, an Information Disclosure Statement is submitted citing the Peterson et al "Resonance Techniques and Apparatus for Elastic-Wave Velocity Determination in Thin Metal Plates" publication which was cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of June 20, 2005. The undersigned did not have a copy available earlier.

Additionally, no English counterparts of the German Patents are available for submission to the Examiner which were cited in the June 20, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 785.45158X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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DES:dlh